

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached "Replacement Sheet" of drawings include changes to Figure 7.
The attached "Replacement Sheet" which includes Figures 4-7, replaces the original sheet including Figures 4-7.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet 2/2

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 are now pending in the application. Minor amendments have been made to the specification and claims to simply overcome the objections to the specification and rejections of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112. The amendments to the claims contained herein are of equivalent scope as originally filed and, thus, are not a narrowing amendment. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection(s) in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

DRAWINGS

The drawings stand objected to for certain informalities. Applicant has attached revised drawings for the Examiner's approval.

SPECIFICATION

The specification stands objected to for certain informalities. Applicant has amended the specification according to the Examiner's suggestions. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection are respectfully requested.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS

Claim 6 is objected to because of the following informality: The unit "nm" corresponds to "nanometers," a unit of length. An appropriate unit for torque could be "N-m" for Newton-meters. Applicant has amended claim 6 according to the Examiner's suggestions. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection are respectfully requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Applicant has amended the claims accordingly and respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-3, 5-17, 19 and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hofschneider (U.S. Pat. No. 6,669,421) in view of Mason (U.S. Pat. No. 4,650,208), in view of Brilmyer (U.S. Pat. No. 5,580,201), and in further view of Reichelt (U.S. Pat. No. 6,113,299). These rejections are respectfully traversed, in light of Applicant's amendments to the claims.

The Examiner's attention is directed to amended independent Claims 1 and 15 which include the limitation that the fastener has a knurl portion. As claimed, this knurl prevents the relative rotation of the first cam plate with respect to the fastener. In characterizing the references, the Examiner notes, "Hofschneider does not teach the first cam plate 8 is mated to the threaded fastener 10 using a knurled portion." Applicant respectfully disagrees with Examiner's assertion that modifying Hofschneider in view of Brilmyer results in the knurled portion at the bolt head. Neither Hofschneider nor Brilmyer teaches the knurl portion at the head. Applicant submits the combination proposed by the Examiner is being made only in light of his knowledge of Applicant's disclosure. Moreover, Brilmyer teaches away from the addition of the knurl portion

which Examiner refers to as an obvious result of the combination of Hofschneider and Brilmyer. In its recitation of prior art (column 1, 61-63) Brilmyer says a “disadvantage” of this system is the lack of “play with respect to the bolt, possibly resulting in slight misalignment of the two cams.” Combining Hofschneider with Brilmyer in no way teaches Applicant’s limitations and is further improper.

With regard to Claim 6, Applicant claims its cam bolt assembly with an interface capable of withstanding 150 N-m of torque. Examiner states that it “would have been an obvious design choice ... that a cam bolt assembly used in such a suspension application should be capable of withstanding a torque of 150 N-m in order to avoid under component deflection or failure.” Applicant respectfully disagrees. It is not necessarily obvious to one skilled in the art that the threaded fastener with two channels could meet torque requirements of 150 N-m, particularly with knurling. As Applicant described in the background of the invention, the prior art teaches coupling plates to shafts using a D-shaped notch cut into the bolt surface, corresponding with a D-shaped hole in the plate. Applicant’s claims relate to solving issues concerning assembly strength in relation to size and weight of materials.

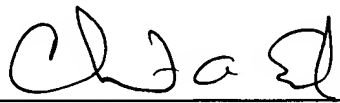
CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and

favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: 
Christopher A. Eusebi
Reg. No. 44,672

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.
P.O. Box 828
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303
(248) 641-1600

EKB/tp